LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 218

Introduced by Fredrickson, 20.

Read first time January 14, 2025

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to elections; to amend sections 32-307, 2 32-315, 32-1506, 60-484, 60-4,130, and 60-4,130.02, Reissue Revised 3 Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 32-202, 32-308, 32-312, 32-1002, 4 and 60-4,144, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to change provisions relating to registration of voters and voting; to 5 6 change penalty provisions; to eliminate obsolete provisions; to 7 harmonize provisions; to provide an operative date; to repeal the 8 original sections; and to outright repeal section 32-309, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska. 9

10 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 32-202, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
 2024, is amended to read:

3 32-202 In addition to any other duties prescribed by law, the
4 Secretary of State shall:

5 (1) Supervise the conduct of primary and general elections in this6 state;

7 (2) Provide training and support for election commissioners, county 8 clerks, and other election officials in providing for day-to-day 9 operations of the office, registration of voters, and the conduct of 10 elections;

11 (3) Enforce the Election Act;

12 (4) With the assistance and advice of the Attorney General, make13 uniform interpretations of the act;

(5) Provide periodic training for the agencies and their agents and
 contractors in carrying out their duties under sections 32-308 <u>and</u> to
 32-310;

17 (6) Develop and print forms for use as required by sections 32-308,
18 32-310, 32-320, 32-329, 32-947, 32-956, and 32-958;

(7) Contract with the Department of Administrative Services for
storage and distribution of the forms;

(8) Require reporting to ensure compliance with sections 32-308 and
 to 32-310;

(9) Prepare and transmit reports as required by the National Voter
Registration Act of 1993, 52 U.S.C. 20501 et seq.;

(10) Develop and print a manual describing the requirements of the initiative and referendum process and distribute the manual to election commissioners and county clerks for distribution to the public upon request;

(11) Develop and print pamphlets described in section 32-1405.01;
(12) Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations as necessary for
elections conducted under sections 32-952 to 32-959;

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1 (13) Establish a free access system, such as a toll-free telephone 2 number or an Internet website, that any voter who casts a provisional ballot may access to discover whether the vote of that voter was counted 3 4 and, if the vote was not counted, the reason that the vote was not counted. The Secretary of State shall establish and maintain reasonable 5 procedures necessary to protect the security, confidentiality, and 6 7 integrity of personal information collected, stored, or otherwise used by the free access system. Access to information about an individual 8 provisional ballot shall be restricted to the individual who cast the 9 ballot; 10

Provide a website dedicated to voter identification 11 (14) requirements and procedures. The Secretary of State shall establish, 12 13 maintain, and regularly update on the website a document entitled "List of Acceptable Forms of Identification" that lists forms of identification 14 that qualify as valid photographic identification for purposes of voter 15 identification; 16

17 (15) Provide a public awareness campaign regarding the voter
18 identification requirements and procedures, including communication
19 through multiple mediums and in-person events;

(16) Provide instructions and information to the Department of 20 Health and Human Services, the Department of Motor Vehicles, and the 21 State Department of Education for distribution by such agencies to 22 23 residents regarding the requirement to Nebraska present valid 24 photographic identification in order to vote and the way to obtain free 25 valid photographic identification; and

(17) Not use or allow the use of citizenship information shared with
or collected by the Secretary of State pursuant to the Election Act for
any purpose other than maintenance of the voter registration list,
including law enforcement purposes.

30 Sec. 2. Section 32-307, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 31 amended to read:

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1 32-307 No materials advocating or advertising any political issue, 2 candidate, or party shall be displayed or distributed within fifty feet 3 of any voter registration site. No alcohol shall be served within fifty 4 feet of any voter registration site. The registration procedure shall be 5 conducted in a neutral manner and shall not be connected with anything 6 unrelated to the object of registering electors except as otherwise 7 provided in sections 32-308 and to 32-310.

8 Sec. 3. Section 32-308, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
9 2024, is amended to read:

10 32-308 (1) The Secretary of State and the Director of Motor Vehicles shall enter into an agreement to match information in the computerized 11 statewide voter registration list with information in the database of the 12 Department of Motor Vehicles to the extent required to enable each such 13 including official to verify the accuracy of the information, 14 citizenship, provided on applications for voter registration. 15 The 16 Director of Motor Vehicles shall enter into an agreement with the Commissioner of Social Security under section 205(r)(8) of the federal 17 Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 405(r)(8), as such section existed on 18 19 April 17, 2003, for purposes of the Election Act.

(2) The Department of Motor Vehicles, with the assistance of the 20 Secretary of State, shall prescribe a voter registration application 21 which may be used to register to vote or change his or her address for 22 23 voting purposes at the same time an elector applies for an original or 24 renewal motor vehicle operator's license, an original or renewal state 25 identification card, or a replacement thereof. The voter registration application shall be designed so that the elector's information is 26 transmitted to the election commissioner or county clerk pursuant to 27 28 subsection (3) of this section unless the elector specifies on the form that he or she does not want to register to vote or update his or her 29 voter registration record. The voter registration application shall 30 31 contain the information required pursuant to section 32-312 and shall be

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1 designed so that it does not require the duplication of information in 2 the application for the motor vehicle operator's license or state identification card, except that it may require a second signature of the 3 4 applicant. The department and the Secretary of State shall make the voter 5 registration application available to any person applying for an operator's license or state identification card. The application shall be 6 7 completed at the office of the department by the close of business on the third Friday preceding any election to be registered to vote at such 8 9 election. A registration application received after the deadline shall 10 not be processed by the election commissioner or county clerk until after the election. If a voter registration application is submitted under this 11 section with the signature of the applicant but the applicant is not 12 eligible to register to vote, the submission shall not be considered a 13 14 violation of section 32-1502 or 32-1503 and the document submitted shall not be considered a valid or completed voter registration application for 15 16 purposes of registration or enforcement of the Election Act unless the 17 applicant has willfully and knowingly taken affirmative steps to register to vote knowing that he or she is not eligible to do so. 18

(3) The Department of Motor Vehicles, in conjunction with the 19 Secretary of State, shall develop a process to electronically transmit 20 voter registration application information received under subsection (2) 21 of this section to the election commissioner or county clerk of the 22 county in which the applicant resides within the time limits prescribed 23 24 in subsection (4) of this section for each applicant who indicates on the 25 application that he or she is a citizen of the United States and at least eighteen years of age or will be eighteen years of age on or before the 26 first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of the then-current 27 year. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall not transmit voter 28 29 registration application information for applications pursuant to section 30 60-480.01. The Director of Motor Vehicles shall designate an 31 implementation date for the process which shall be on or before January

1 1, 2016.

2 (4) The voter registration application information shall be transmitted to the election commissioner or county clerk of the county in 3 which the applicant resides not later than ten days after receipt, except 4 5 that if the voter registration application information is received within five days prior to the third Friday preceding any election, it shall be 6 7 transmitted not later than five days after its original submission. Any information on whether an applicant registers or declines to register and 8 9 the location of the office at which he or she registers shall be confidential and shall only be used for voter registration purposes. 10

(5) For each voter registration application for which information is 11 transmitted electronically pursuant to this section, the Secretary of 12 13 State shall obtain a copy of the electronic representation of the 14 applicant's digital image and signature from the Department of Motor Vehicles' records of his or her motor vehicle operator's license or state 15 identification card for purposes of voter registration and voting. Each 16 17 voter registration application electronically transmitted under this section shall include information provided by the applicant that includes 18 whether the applicant is a citizen of the United States, whether the 19 applicant is of sufficient age to register to vote, the applicant's 20 residence address, the applicant's postal address if different from the 21 residence address, the date of birth of the applicant, the party 22 23 affiliation of the applicant or an indication that the applicant is not 24 affiliated with any political party, the applicant's motor vehicle 25 operator's license number, the applicant's previous registration location by city, county, or state, if applicable, and the applicant's signature. 26

(6) State agency personnel involved in the voter registration
process pursuant to this section and section 32-309 shall not be
considered deputy registrars or agents or employees of the election
commissioner or county clerk.

31 Sec. 4. Section 32-312, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,

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2 32-312 The registration application prescribed by the Secretary of 3 State pursuant to section 32-304 or 32-311.01 shall provide the 4 instructional statements and request the information from the applicant 5 as provided in this section.

6 CITIZENSHIP—"Are you a citizen of the United States of America?" 7 with boxes to check to indicate whether the applicant is or is not a 8 citizen of the United States.

9 AGE—"Are you at least eighteen years of age or will you be eighteen 10 years of age on or before the first Tuesday following the first Monday of 11 November of this year?" with boxes to check to indicate whether or not 12 the applicant will be eighteen years of age or older on election day.

13 WARNING—"If you checked 'no' in response to either of these 14 questions, do not complete this application.".

15 NAME—the name of the applicant giving the first and last name in 16 full, the middle name in full or the middle initial, and the maiden name 17 of the applicant, if applicable.

RESIDENCE-the name and number of the street, avenue, or other 18 location of the dwelling where the applicant resides if there is a 19 number. If the registrant resides in a hotel, apartment, tenement house, 20 or institution, such additional information shall be included as will 21 22 give the exact location of such registrant's place of residence. If the registrant lives in an incorporated or unincorporated area not identified 23 24 by the use of roads, road names, or house numbers, the registrant shall 25 state the section, township, and range of his or her residence and the corporate name of the school district as described in section 79-405 in 26 which he or she is located. 27

28 POSTAL ADDRESS—the address at which the applicant receives mail if 29 different from the residence address.

30 ADDRESS OF LAST REGISTRATION—the name and number of the street, 31 avenue, or other location of the dwelling from which the applicant last

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1 registered.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS—the telephone numbers of the applicant. At the request of the applicant, a designation shall be made that a telephone number is an unlisted number, and such designation shall preclude the listing of such telephone number on any list of voter registrations.

6 EMAIL ADDRESS—an email address of the applicant. At the request of 7 the applicant, a designation shall be made that the email address is 8 private, and such designation shall preclude the listing of the 9 applicant's email address on any list of voter registrations.

DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER OR LAST FOUR DIGITS OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER—if the applicant has a Nebraska driver's license, the license number, and if the applicant does not have a Nebraska driver's license, the last four digits of the applicant's social security number.

DATE OF APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION—the month, day, and year when the applicant presented himself or herself for registration, when the applicant completed and signed the registration application if the application was submitted by mail or delivered to the election official by the applicant's personal messenger or personal agent, or when the completed application was submitted if the registration application was completed pursuant to section 32-304.

21 PLACE OF BIRTH-show the state, country, kingdom, empire, or dominion 22 where the applicant was born.

DATE OF BIRTH—show the date of the applicant's birth. The applicant shall be at least eighteen years of age or attain eighteen years of age on or before the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November to have the right to register and vote in any election in the present calendar year.

28 REGISTRATION TAKEN BY—show the signature of the authorized official 29 or staff member accepting the application pursuant to section 32-309 or 30 32-310 or at least one of the deputy registrars taking the application 31 pursuant to section 32-306, if applicable.

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1 PARTY AFFILIATION-show the party affiliation of the applicant as 2 Democratic, Republican, or Other or show no party affiliation as Nonpartisan. (Note: If you wish to vote in both partisan and nonpartisan 3 primary elections for state and local offices, you must indicate a 4 political party affiliation on the registration application. If you 5 register without a political party affiliation (nonpartisan), you will 6 receive only the nonpartisan ballots for state and local offices at 7 primary elections. If you register without a political party affiliation, 8 9 you may vote in partisan primary elections for congressional offices.)

OTHER—information the Secretary of State determines will assist in
the proper and accurate registration of the voter.

12 Immediately following the spaces for inserting information as 13 provided in this section, the following statement shall be printed:

To the best of my knowledge and belief, I declare under penalty of election falsification that:

16 (1) I live in the State of Nebraska at the address provided in this17 application;

18 (2) I have not been convicted of a felony or, if convicted, I have19 completed my sentence for the felony, including any parole term;

20 (3) I have not been officially found to be non compos mentis21 (mentally incompetent); and

22 (4) I am a citizen of the United States.

Any registrant who signs this application knowing that any of the information in the application is false shall be guilty of a Class IV felony under section 32-1502 of the statutes of Nebraska. The penalty for a Class IV felony is up to two years imprisonment and twelve months postrelease supervision, a fine of up to ten thousand dollars, or both.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE—require the applicant to affix his or her signature to the application.

30 Sec. 5. Section 32-315, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 31 amended to read:

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1 32-315 Upon receiving a completed voter registration application pursuant to section 32-308 , 32-309, or 32-310 indicating that a voter 2 who is registered in the county has changed his or her name or moved to 3 4 another residence within the same county, the election commissioner or 5 county clerk shall change the voter registration record of the registered voter to the new name or new address and shall send an acknowledgment 6 7 card to the registered voter indicating that the change of registration has been completed and the address of the voter's new polling place. 8

9 Sec. 6. Section 32-1002, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
10 2024, is amended to read:

11 32-1002 (1) As the ballots are removed from the ballot box pursuant 12 to sections 32-1012 to 32-1018, the receiving board shall separate the 13 envelopes containing the provisional ballots from the rest of the ballots 14 and deliver them to the election commissioner or county clerk.

15 (2) Upon receipt of a provisional ballot, the election commissioner 16 or county clerk shall verify that the certificate on the front of the 17 envelope or the form attached to the envelope is in proper form and that 18 the certification has been signed by the voter.

19 (3) The election commissioner or county clerk shall also (a) verify that such person has not voted anywhere else in the county or been issued 20 a ballot for early voting, (b) investigate whether any credible evidence 21 exists that the person was properly registered to vote in the county 22 before the deadline for registration for the election, (c) investigate 23 24 whether any information has been received pursuant to section 32-308, 32-309, 32-310, or 32-324 that the person has resided, registered, or 25 voted in any other county or state since registering to vote in the 26 county, and (d) upon determining that credible evidence exists that the 27 28 properly registered to vote in the county, make person was the appropriate changes to the voter registration register by entering the 29 information contained in the registration application completed by the 30 voter at the time of voting a provisional ballot. 31

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(4) A provisional ballot cast by a voter pursuant to section 32-915
 shall be counted if:

3 (a) Credible evidence exists that the voter was properly registered
4 in the county before the deadline for registration for the election;

5 (b) The voter has resided in the county continuously since6 registering to vote in the county;

7 (c) The voter has not voted anywhere else in the county or has not8 otherwise voted early using a ballot for early voting;

9 (d) The voter has completed a registration application prior to 10 voting as prescribed in subsection (6) of this section and:

(i) The residence address provided on the registration application completed pursuant to subdivision (1)(e) of section 32-915 is located within the precinct in which the person voted; and

(ii) If the voter is voting in a primary election, the party affiliation provided on the registration application completed prior to voting the provisional ballot is the same party affiliation that appears on the voter's voter registration record based on his or her previous registration application; and

(e) The certification on the front of the envelope or form attachedto the envelope is in the proper form and signed by the voter.

(5) A provisional ballot cast by a voter pursuant to section 32-915
shall not be counted if:

(a) The voter was not properly registered in the county before thedeadline for registration for the election;

(b) Information has been received pursuant to section 32-308, 32-309, 32-310, or 32-324 that the voter has resided, registered, or voted in any other county or state since registering to vote in the county in which he or she cast the provisional ballot;

(c) Credible evidence exists that the voter has voted elsewhere orhas otherwise voted early;

31 (d) The voter failed to complete and sign a registration application

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1 pursuant to subsection (6) of this section and subdivision (1)(e) of 2 section 32-915;

3 (e) The residence address provided on the registration application 4 completed pursuant to subdivision (1)(e) of section 32-915 is in a 5 different county or in a different precinct than the county or precinct 6 in which the voter voted;

7 (f) If the voter is voting in a primary election, the party 8 affiliation on the registration application completed prior to voting the 9 provisional ballot is different than the party affiliation that appears 10 on the voter's voter registration record based on his or her previous 11 registration application; or

12 (g) The voter failed to complete and sign the certification on the 13 envelope or form attached to the envelope pursuant to subsection (3) of 14 section 32-915.

(6) An error or omission of information on the registration
application or the certification required under section 32-915 shall not
result in the provisional ballot not being counted if:

18 (a)(i) The errant or omitted information is contained elsewhere on
19 the registration application or certification; or

(ii) The information is not necessary to determine the eligibilityof the voter to cast a ballot; and

(b) Both the registration application and the certification aresigned by the voter.

(7) Upon determining that the voter's provisional ballot is eligible to be counted, the election commissioner or county clerk shall remove the ballot from the envelope without exposing the marks on the ballot and shall place the ballot with the ballots to be counted by the county canvassing board.

(8) The election commissioner or county clerk shall notify the
system administrator of the system created pursuant to section 32-202 as
to whether the ballot was counted and, if not, the reason the ballot was

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1 not counted.

2 (9) The verification and investigation shall be completed within3 seven business days after the election.

Sec. 7. Section 32-1506, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
amended to read:

32-1506 Any deputy registrar, judge or clerk of election, or other 6 officer having the custody of records, registers, copies of records or 7 registers, oaths, certificates, or any other paper, document, or evidence 8 9 of any description by law directed to be made, filed, or preserved (1)10 who steals, willfully destroys, mutilates, defaces, falsifies, or fraudulently removes such paper, document, or evidence or any part 11 thereof, (2) who fraudulently makes an entry, erasure, or alteration in 12 13 such paper, document, or evidence except as allowed and directed by the Election Act, (3) who uses the voter registration records for any purpose 14 other than voter registration, election administration, or enforcement of 15 the Election Act, (4) who permits any other person to commit any 16 17 violation listed in this section, or (5) who advises, procures, or abets the commission of such a violation shall be quilty of a Class III 18 19 misdemeanor and shall forfeit his or her office. Any other person who violates this section shall be quilty of a Class III misdemeanor. 20

Sec. 8. Section 60-484, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

60-484 (1) Except as otherwise provided in the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act, no resident of the State of Nebraska shall operate a motor vehicle upon the alleys or highways of this state until the person has obtained an operator's license for that purpose.

(2) Application for an operator's license or a state identificationcard shall be made in a manner prescribed by the department.

(3) The applicant shall provide his or her full legal name, date of
birth, mailing address, gender, race or ethnicity, and social security
number, two forms of proof of address of his or her principal residence

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unless the applicant is a program participant under the Address 1 2 Confidentiality Act, evidence of identity as required by subsection (6) of this section, and a brief physical description of himself or herself. 3 The applicant: 4 (a) Shall may also complete the voter registration portion pursuant 5 6 to section 32-308, (b) shall be provided the advisement language required 7 by subsection (5) of section 60-6,197; τ (b) Shall (c) shall answer the following: 8 9 (i) Have you within the last three months (e.g. due to diabetes, 10 epilepsy, mental illness, head injury, stroke, heart condition, neurological disease, etc.): 11 12 (A) lost voluntary control or consciousness ... yes ... no 13 (B) experienced vertigo or multiple episodes of dizziness or fainting ... yes ... no 14 15 (C) experienced disorientation ... yes ... no (D) experienced seizures ... yes ... no 16 17 (E) experienced impairment of memory, memory loss ... yes ... no 18 Please explain: (ii) Do you experience any condition which affects your ability to 19 operate a motor vehicle? (e.g. due to loss of, or impairment of, foot, 20 21 leg, hand, arm; neurological or neuromuscular disease, etc.) ... yes ... 22 no Please explain: 23 24 (iii) Since the issuance of your last driver's license/permit, has 25 your health or medical condition changed or worsened? ... yes ... no Please explain, including how the above affects your ability to 26 27 28 (c) Shall be advised as follows: We will use your information to update your voter registration record or register you to vote. 29 30 The applicant shall be given the opportunity to choose not to use his or her information for voter registration, otherwise the applicant 31

shall complete the voter registration portion that is transmitted to the 1 2 election commissioner or county clerk to register the applicant to vote or update his or her voter registration record pursuant to section 3 4 32-308. If the voter registration portion is only partially completed, 5 the department may still proceed to issue the operator's license or state identification card and shall transmit the incomplete voter registration 6 7 portion to the election commissioner or county clerk pursuant to section 32-308. The department may still proceed to issue the operator's license 8 9 or state identification card if the applicant refuses to answer or does 10 not complete the voter registration portion; and (d) May and (d) may answer the following: 11 (i) Do you wish to register to vote as part of this application 12 process? 13 (i) (ii) Do you wish to have a veteran designation displayed on the 14 front of your operator's license or state identification card to show 15 that you served in the armed forces of the United States? (To be eligible 16 17 you must register with the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs 18 registry.)

<u>(ii)</u> (iii) Do you wish to include your name in the Donor Registry of
 Nebraska and donate your organs and tissues at the time of your death?

21 <u>(iii)</u> (iv) Do you wish to receive any additional specific 22 information regarding organ and tissue donation and the Donor Registry of 23 Nebraska?

24 (iv) (v) Do you wish to donate \$1 to promote the Organ and Tissue
 25 Donor Awareness and Education Fund?

(4) Application for an operator's license or state identification
card shall include a signed oath, affirmation, or declaration of the
applicant that the information provided on the application for the
license or card is true and correct.

30 (5) The social security number shall not be printed on the 31 operator's license or state identification card and shall be used only

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1 (a) to furnish information to the United States Selective Service System 2 under section 60-483, (b) with the permission of the director in connection with the verification of the status of an individual's driving 3 4 record in this state or any other state, (c) for purposes of child support enforcement pursuant to section 42-358.08 or 43-512.06, (d) to 5 furnish information regarding an applicant for or holder of a commercial 6 7 driver's license with a hazardous materials endorsement to the Transportation Security Administration of the United States Department of 8 Homeland Security or its agent, (e) to furnish information to the 9 Department of Revenue under section 77-362.02, or (f) to furnish 10 information to the Secretary of State for purposes of the Election Act. 11

(6)(a) Each individual applying for an operator's license or a state identification card shall furnish proof of date of birth and identity with documents containing a photograph or with nonphoto identity documents which include his or her full legal name and date of birth. Such documents shall be those provided in subsection (1) of section 60-484.04.

(b) Any individual under the age of eighteen years applying for an 18 operator's license or a state identification card shall provide a 19 certified copy of his or her birth certificate or, if such individual is 20 unable to provide a certified copy of his or her birth certificate, other 21 22 reliable proof of his or her identity and age, as required in subdivision (6)(a) of this section, accompanied by a certification signed by a parent 23 24 or guardian explaining the inability to produce a copy of such birth certificate. The applicant also may be required to furnish proof to 25 department personnel that the parent or guardian 26 signing the certification is in fact the parent or guardian of such applicant. 27

(c) An applicant may present other documents as proof of
identification and age designated by the director. Any documents accepted
shall be recorded according to a written exceptions process established
by the director.

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1 (7) Any individual applying for an operator's license or a state 2 identification card who indicated his or her wish to have a veteran 3 designation displayed on the front of such license or card shall comply 4 with section 60-4,189.

5 (8) No person shall be a holder of an operator's license and a state 6 identification card at the same time. A person who has a digital image 7 and digital signature on file with the department may apply 8 electronically to change his or her Class O operator's license to a state 9 identification card.

Sec. 9. Section 60-4,130, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

60-4,130 (1) Application for an employment driving permit shall be 12 made to the Department of Motor Vehicles on forms furnished for that 13 purpose by the department. The application form shall contain such 14 information as deemed necessary by the director to carry out this section 15 16 and section 60-4,129. If the department has a digital image and digital 17 signature of the applicant preserved in the digital system implemented under section 60-484.01, the employment driving permit, if issued, may 18 contain such image and signature. The application form shall also include 19 a voter registration portion pursuant to subdivision (3)(c) of section 20 60-484. 32-308 and the following specific question: Do you wish to 21 22 register to vote as part of this application process? To be eligible for 23 an employment driving permit, the applicant shall furnish, along with the application to the director, the following: 24

(a) An affidavit from the applicant's employer stating that such
applicant is required to operate a motor vehicle from his or her
residence to his or her place of employment and return;

(b) If such applicant requires the use of a motor vehicle during the
normal course of employment, an affidavit from the applicant's employer
setting forth the facts establishing such requirement;

31 (c) An affidavit stating that there exists no other reasonable

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alternative means of transportation to and from work available to the
 applicant; and

3 (d) If the applicant is self-employed, an affidavit to the
4 department setting forth the provisions of his or her employment.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, upon making 5 application for such permit, the applicant shall certify that he or she 6 7 will attend and complete, within sixty days, a driver improvement course presented by the department or show successful completion of the driver 8 education and training course as provided in section 60-4,183. If such 9 course is not completed, the employment driving permit shall be 10 surrendered to the department. If any person fails to return to the 11 department the permit as provided in this subsection, the department 12 shall direct any peace officer or authorized representative of the 13 14 department to secure possession of the permit and to return the permit to the department. An applicant whose operator's license has been suspended 15 16 pursuant to section 43-3318 is not required to fulfill such driver 17 improvement or education and training course requirements. All applicants shall file and maintain proof of financial responsibility as required by 18 19 the Motor Vehicle Safety Responsibility Act.

20 (3) Any person who fails to surrender a permit, as required by this
21 section, shall be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor.

(4) The fee prescribed in section 60-4,115 shall be submitted to thedepartment along with the application for an employment driving permit.

24 (5) When the holder of an employment driving permit is convicted, on or after the date of issuance of the employment driving permit, of any 25 traffic violation or of operating a motor vehicle for a purpose other 26 than specified by such permit, the person shall not be eligible to 27 receive another employment driving permit during that particular period 28 29 of revocation. This subsection does not apply to a holder of an employment driving permit if the reason for his or her license revocation 30 or suspension only involved a suspension under section 43-3318 and not a 31

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1 revocation under any other section.

2 (6) Any person who feels himself or herself aggrieved because of the
3 refusal of the director to issue the employment driving permit may appeal
4 in the manner set forth in section 60-4,105.

5 Sec. 10. Section 60-4,130.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,
6 is amended to read:

60-4,130.02 (1) Application for a medical hardship driving permit 7 shall be made to the Department of Motor Vehicles on forms furnished for 8 9 that purpose by the department. The application form shall contain such information as deemed necessary by the director to carry out this section 10 and section 60-4,130.01. If the department has a digital image and 11 digital signature of the applicant preserved in the digital system 12 implemented under section 60-484.01, the medical hardship driving permit, 13 if issued, may contain such image and signature. The application form 14 shall also include a voter registration portion pursuant to <u>subdivision</u> 15 16 (3)(c) of section 60-484. 32-308 and the following specific question: Do 17 you wish to register to vote as part of this application process? To be eligible for a medical hardship driving permit, the applicant shall 18 furnish, along with the application to the director, the following: 19

(a) An affidavit from the applicant's physician stating that it is
necessary for such applicant to receive medical treatment at a location
other than the applicant's residence and that the treatment will not
impair the applicant's ability to operate a motor vehicle; and

(b) An affidavit stating that there exists no other reasonable
alternative means of transportation to and from the site of medical
treatment available to the applicant.

(2) The applicant shall also be required to file and maintain proof
of financial responsibility as required by the Motor Vehicle Safety
Responsibility Act.

30 (3) The fee prescribed in section 60-4,115 shall be submitted to the31 department along with the application for a medical hardship driving

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1 permit.

2 (4) When the holder of a medical hardship driving permit is 3 convicted, on or after the date of issuance of the permit, of any traffic 4 violation or of operating a motor vehicle for a purpose other than 5 specified by such permit, the person shall not be eligible to receive 6 another medical hardship driving permit during that particular period of 7 revocation.

8 (5) Any person who feels himself or herself aggrieved because of the 9 refusal of the director to issue the medical hardship driving permit may 10 appeal in the manner set forth in section 60-4,105.

Sec. 11. Section 60-4,144, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024, is amended to read:

13 60-4,144 (1) An applicant for issuance of any original or renewal commercial driver's license or an applicant for a change of class of 14 commercial motor vehicle, endorsement, or restriction shall demonstrate 15 16 his or her knowledge and skills for operating a commercial motor vehicle as prescribed in the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act. An applicant 17 for a commercial driver's license shall provide the information and 18 19 documentation required by this section and section 60-4,144.01. Such information and documentation shall include any additional information 20 required by 49 C.F.R. parts 383 and 391 and also include: 21

(a) Certification that the commercial motor vehicle in which the
applicant takes any driving skills examination is representative of the
class of commercial motor vehicle that the applicant operates or expects
to operate; and

(b) The names of all states where the applicant has been licensed to
operate any type of motor vehicle in the ten years prior to the date of
application.

(2)(a) Before being issued a CLP-commercial learner's permit or
 commercial driver's license, the applicant shall provide (i) his or her
 full legal name, date of birth, mailing address, gender, race or

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ethnicity, and social security number, (ii) two forms of proof of address 1 2 of his or her principal residence unless the applicant is a program participant under the Address Confidentiality Act, except that a 3 4 nondomiciled applicant for a CLP-commercial learner's permit or nondomiciled commercial driver's license holder does not have to provide 5 proof of residence in Nebraska, (iii) evidence of identity as required by 6 7 this section, and (iv) a brief physical description of himself or 8 herself.

9 (b) The applicant's social security number shall not be printed on the CLP-commercial learner's permit or commercial driver's license and 10 shall be used only (i) to furnish information to the United States 11 Selective Service System under section 60-483, (ii) with the permission 12 13 of the director in connection with the certification of the status of an individual's driving record in this state or any other state, (iii) for 14 purposes of child support enforcement pursuant to section 42-358.08 or 15 16 43-512.06, (iv) to furnish information regarding an applicant for or holder of a commercial driver's license with a hazardous materials 17 endorsement to the Transportation Security Administration of the United 18 19 States Department of Homeland Security or its agent, (v) to furnish information to the Department of Revenue under section 77-362.02, (vi) to 20 furnish information to the Secretary of State for purposes of the 21 22 Election Act, or (vii) to query the federal Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse. 23

(c) No person shall be a holder of a CLP-commercial learner's permit
 or commercial driver's license and a state identification card at the
 same time.

(3) Before being issued a CLP-commercial learner's permit or
commercial driver's license, an applicant, except a nondomiciled
applicant, shall provide proof that this state is his or her state of
residence. Acceptable proof of residence is a document with the person's
name and residential address within this state.

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(4)(a) Before being issued a CLP-commercial learner's permit or
 commercial driver's license, an applicant shall provide proof of
 identity.

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(b) The following are acceptable as proof of identity:

(i) A valid, unexpired United States passport;

6 (ii) A certified copy of a birth certificate filed with a state 7 office of vital statistics or equivalent agency in the individual's state 8 of birth;

9 (iii) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the United States
10 Department of State;

(iv) A valid, unexpired <u>Permanent Resident Card</u> permanent resident
 card issued by the United States Department of Homeland Security or
 United States Citizenship and Immigration Services;

14 (v) An unexpired employment authorization document issued by the15 United States Department of Homeland Security;

16 (vi) An unexpired foreign passport with a valid, unexpired United
17 States visa affixed accompanied by the approved form documenting the
18 applicant's most recent admittance into the United States;

(vii) A Certificate of Naturalization issued by the United StatesDepartment of Homeland Security;

(viii) A Certificate of Citizenship issued by the United States
Department of Homeland Security;

(ix) A driver's license or identification card issued in compliance
with the standards established by the federal REAL ID Act of 2005, Public
Law 109-13, division B, section 1, 119 Stat. 302; or

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(x) Such other documents as the director may approve.

(c) If an applicant presents one of the documents listed under subdivision (b)(i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (vii), or (viii) of this subsection, the verification of the applicant's identity will also provide satisfactory evidence of lawful status.

31 (d) If the applicant presents one of the identity documents listed

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under subdivision (b)(v), (vi), or (ix) of this subsection, the 1 2 verification of the identity documents does not provide satisfactory evidence of lawful status. The applicant shall also present a second 3 document from subdivision (4)(b) of this section, a document from 4 subsection (5) of this section, or documentation issued by the United 5 States Department of Homeland Security or other federal agencies 6 7 demonstrating lawful status as determined by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. 8

9 (e) An applicant may present other documents as designated by the 10 director as proof of identity. Any documents accepted shall be recorded 11 according to a written exceptions process established by the director.

(f)(i) Any person assigned a parolee immigration status by the United States Department of Homeland Security may apply for and be issued a CLP-commercial learner's permit or commercial driver's license that is not in compliance with the federal REAL ID Act of 2005, Public Law 16 109-13, if the person:

(A) Possessed an unexpired foreign passport issued to such person at
 the time of such person's entry into the United States of America; and

(B) Fulfills the requirements of subdivision (2)(a) of this section
and such requirements are verified pursuant to section 60-484.06.

(ii) Any CLP-commercial learner's permit or commercial driver's license issued under this subsection is otherwise subject to all laws relating to CLP-commercial learner's permits or commercial driver's licenses.

(5)(a) Whenever a person, as a nondomiciled individual to this state, is renewing, replacing, upgrading, transferring, or applying for a commercial driver's license, or replacing, upgrading, transferring, or applying for a CLP-commercial learner's permit, the Department of Motor Vehicles shall verify the citizenship in the United States of the person or the lawful status in the United States of the person.

31 (b) The following are acceptable as proof of citizenship or lawful

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1 status:

(i) A valid, unexpired United States passport;

3 (ii) A certified copy of a birth certificate filed with a state 4 office of vital statistics or equivalent agency in the individual's state 5 of birth, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, or the 6 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;

7 (iii) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the United States8 Department of State;

9 (iv) A Certificate of Naturalization issued by the United States
10 Department of Homeland Security;

(v) A Certificate of Citizenship issued by the United States
 Department of Homeland Security; or

(vi) A valid, unexpired Permanent Resident Card issued by the United
States Department of Homeland Security or United States Citizenship and
Immigration Services.

16 (6) An applicant may present other documents as designated by the 17 director as proof of lawful status. Any documents accepted shall be 18 recorded according to a written exceptions process established by the 19 director.

20 (7)(a) An applicant shall obtain a nondomiciled CLP-commercial
 21 driver's license or nondomiciled CLP-commercial learner's permit:

(i) If the applicant is domiciled in a foreign jurisdiction and the
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administrator has not determined that the
commercial motor vehicle operator testing and licensing standards of that
jurisdiction meet the standards contained in subparts G and H of 49
C.F.R. part 383; or

(ii) If the applicant is domiciled in a state that is prohibited from issuing commercial learners' permits and commercial drivers' licenses in accordance with 49 C.F.R. 384.405. Such person is eligible to obtain a nondomiciled CLP-commercial learner's permit or nondomiciled commercial driver's license from Nebraska that complies with the testing

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and licensing standards contained in subparts F, G, and H of 49 C.F.R.
 part 383.

3 (b) An applicant for a nondomiciled CLP-commercial learner's permit
4 and nondomiciled commercial driver's license shall do the following:

5 (i) Complete the requirements to obtain a CLP-commercial learner's permit or a commercial driver's license under the Motor Vehicle 6 7 Operator's License Act, except that an applicant domiciled in a foreign jurisdiction shall provide an unexpired employment authorization document 8 9 issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services or an 10 unexpired foreign passport accompanied by an approved I-94 form documenting the applicant's most recent admittance into the United 11 States. No proof of domicile is required; 12

13 (ii) After receipt of the nondomiciled CLP-commercial learner's permit or nondomiciled commercial driver's license and, for as long as 14 the permit or license is valid, notify the Department of Motor Vehicles 15 of any adverse action taken by any jurisdiction or governmental agency, 16 17 foreign or domestic, against his or her driving privileges. Such adverse actions include, but are not limited to, license disqualification or 18 19 disqualification from operating a commercial motor vehicle for the convictions described in 49 C.F.R. 383.51. Notifications shall be made 20 within the time periods specified in 49 C.F.R. 383.33; and 21

(iii) Provide a mailing address to the Department of Motor Vehicles.
If the applicant is applying for a foreign nondomiciled CLP-commercial
learner's permit or foreign nondomiciled commercial driver's license, he
or she shall provide a Nebraska mailing address and his or her employer's
mailing address to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

(c) An applicant for a nondomiciled CLP-commercial learner's permit or nondomiciled commercial driver's license who holds a foreign operator's license is not required to surrender his or her foreign operator's license.

31 (8) Any person applying for a CLP-commercial learner's permit or

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commercial driver's license may answer the following:

2 (a) Do you wish to register to vote as part of this application
3 process?

4 <u>(a)</u> (b) Do you wish to have a veteran designation displayed on the 5 front of your operator's license to show that you served in the armed 6 forces of the United States? (To be eligible you shall register with the 7 Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs registry.)

8 <u>(b)</u> (c) Do you wish to include your name in the Donor Registry of 9 Nebraska and donate your organs and tissues at the time of your death? 10 <u>(c)</u> (d) Do you wish to receive any additional specific information 11 regarding organ and tissue donation and the Donor Registry of Nebraska?

12 (d) (e) Do you wish to donate \$1 to promote the Organ and Tissue
 13 Donor Awareness and Education Fund?

(9) Any person applying for a CLP-commercial learner's permit or
 commercial driver's license shall answer the voter registration question
 as provided in subdivision (3)(c) of section 60-484.

17 <u>(10)</u> (9) Application for a CLP-commercial learner's permit or 18 commercial driver's license shall include a signed oath, affirmation, or 19 declaration of the applicant that the information provided on the 20 application for the permit or license is true and correct.

21 (11) (10) Any person applying for a CLP-commercial learner's permit 22 or commercial driver's license shall make one of the certifications in 23 section 60-4,144.01 and any certification required under section 60-4,146 24 and shall provide such certifications to the Department of Motor Vehicles 25 in order to be issued a CLP-commercial learner's permit or a commercial 26 driver's license.

27 (12) (11) Every person who holds any commercial driver's license 28 shall provide to the department medical certification as required by 29 section 60-4,144.01. The department may provide notice and prescribe 30 medical certification compliance requirements for all holders of 31 commercial drivers' licenses. Holders of commercial drivers' licenses who

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fail to meet the prescribed medical certification compliance requirements
 may be subject to downgrade.

3 Sec. 12. This act becomes operative on January 1, 2026.

Sec. 13. Original sections 32-307, 32-315, 32-1506, 60-484,
60-4,130, and 60-4,130.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and
sections 32-202, 32-308, 32-312, 32-1002, and 60-4,144, Revised Statutes
Cumulative Supplement, 2024, are repealed.

8 Sec. 14. The following section is outright repealed: Section
9 32-309, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska.